

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 7
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Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

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ACADAMIES

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The report is in response to a request from the Scrutiny Committee for a briefing on academies to raise their awareness of how they operate and what are the key difference from maintained schools.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked review the presentation and identify areas of further explanation or analysis.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 Single Delivery Plan - Programme 1 – Creating jobs through growth and improved skills and education.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Academies are publicly funded schools that operate outside of local authority control. The government describes them as independent state-funded schools. Essentially, academies have more freedom than other state schools over their finances, the curriculum, and teachers' pay and conditions. They were established by the Labour government, seen as a way of turning around the worst-performing schools and schools in disadvantaged areas.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The attached presentation outlines the different types of academies, the current academy situation in Peterborough and some of the implications that academy status brings. It also examines the role of the local authority and how the LA interacts with academy schools.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 None

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 The presentation is presented as an information update for the committee. The committee is asked to consider whether it requires further information or a more detailed explanation.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1 None

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1 - Powerpoint presentation outlining academy school status.